

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

Claim 1 (currently amended): A surge absorber comprising:

an insulator block including a first internal electrode film, a second internal electrode film, and a discharge hole ~~located in proximity to the first and second internal electrode films;~~

a-ground external electrode layers provided on at least one both opposed side surfaces of the insulator block so as to be connected ~~with~~ to both ends of the first internal electrode film; and

signal external electrode layers provided on both opposed end surfaces of the insulator block so as to be connected ~~with~~ to both ends of the second internal electrode film; wherein

the first internal electrode film extends in a longitudinal direction that is substantially perpendicular to a longitudinal direction in which the second internal electrode film extends such that portions of the first and second internal electrode films overlap; and

the discharge hole is disposed between the overlapping portions of the first and second internal electrode films.

Claim 2 (original): A surge absorber according to claim 1, further comprising a resistor film on at least one end surface of the insulator block, the resistor film being connected between one of the ends of the second internal electrode film and one of the signal external electrode layers.

Claim 3 (currently amended): A surge absorber array comprising:

an insulator block including a first internal electrode film, a plurality of second internal electrode films, and at least one discharge hole ~~located in proximity to the first internal electrode film and the plurality of second internal electrode films;~~

a-ground external electrode layers provided on at least one both opposed end surfaces of the insulator block so as to be connected ~~with~~ to both ends of the first internal electrode film; and

signal external electrode layers provided on both opposed side surfaces of the insulator block so as to be independently connected ~~with~~ to both ends of each of the plurality of second internal electrode films; wherein

the first internal electrode film extends in a longitudinal direction that is perpendicular to a longitudinal direction in which each of the plurality of second internal electrode films extends such that a portion of the first internal electrode film and portions of each of the plurality of second internal electrode films overlap; and

the at least one discharge hole is disposed between at least one of the overlapping portions of the first and the plurality of second internal electrode films.

Claim 4 (original): A surge absorber according to claim 3, further comprising a resistor film on at least one end surface of the insulator block, the resistor film being connected between one of the ends of the second internal electrode film and one of the signal external electrode layers.

Claim 5 (currently amended): A surge absorber comprising:

a laminated compact of a first insulator sheet having a first internal electrode film, a second insulator sheet having a second internal electrode film, and a third insulator sheet between the first and second insulator sheets having a discharge hole;

a-ground external electrode layers provided on ~~at least one~~both opposed side surfaces of the laminated compact so as to be connected ~~with an~~to both ends of the first internal electrode film; and

signal external electrode layers provided on both opposed end surfaces of the laminated compact so as to be connected ~~with to~~ both ends of the second internal electrode film; wherein

the first internal electrode film extends in a longitudinal direction that is perpendicular to a longitudinal direction in which the second internal electrode film extends such that portions of the first and second internal electrode films overlap; and

the discharge hole is disposed between the overlapping portions of the first and second internal electrode films.

Claim 6 (original): A surge absorber according to claim 5, further comprising a resistor film on at least one end surface of the laminated compact, the resistor film being connected between one of the ends of the second internal electrode film and one of the signal external electrode layers.

Claim 7 (original): A surge absorber array comprising:

a laminated compact of a first insulator sheet having a first internal electrode film, a second insulator sheet having a plurality of second internal electrode films, and a third insulator sheet between the first and the second insulator sheets having at least one discharge hole;

a-ground external electrode layers provided on ~~at least one~~both opposed end surfaces of the laminated compact so as to be connected ~~with an~~to both ends of the first internal electrode film; and

signal external electrode layers provided on both opposed side surfaces of the laminated compact so as to be independently connected ~~with to~~ both ends of each of the plurality of second internal electrode films; wherein

the first internal electrode film extends in a longitudinal direction that is perpendicular to a longitudinal direction in which each of the plurality of second internal electrode films extends such that a portion of the first internal electrode film and portions of each of the plurality of second internal electrode films overlap; and

the at least one discharge hole is disposed between at least one of the overlapping portions of the first and second internal electrode films.

Claim 8 (original): A surge absorber according to claim 7, further comprising a resistor film on at least one end surface of the laminated compact, the resistor film being connected between one of the ends of the second internal electrode film and one of the signal external electrode layers.

Claim 9 (original): A surge absorber comprising:

a laminated compact of a first insulator sheet having a second internal electrode film and a first internal electrode films on both sides of the second internal electrode film, and a second insulator sheet having a discharge hole located in proximity to the first internal electrode films and the second internal electrode film;

a-ground external electrode layers provided on ~~each of~~ both opposed side surfaces of the laminated compact so as to be connected with one end of each of the first internal electrode films; and

signal external electrode layers provided on both opposed end surfaces of the laminated compact so as to be connected with both ends of the second internal electrode film; wherein

each of the first internal electrode films extends in a longitudinal direction that is perpendicular to a longitudinal direction in which the second internal electrode film extends such that the second internal electrode film is disposed between the first internal electrode films; and

the discharge hole is disposed so as to overlap a portion of the first and second internal electrode films.

Claim 10 (original): A surge absorber according to claim 9, further comprising a resistor film on at least one end surface of the laminated compact, the resistor film being connected between one of the ends of the second internal electrode film and one of the signal external electrode layers.

Claim 11 (original): A surge absorber comprising:

a laminated compact of a first insulator sheet having a first internal electrode film, a second insulator sheet having a second internal electrode film, and a third insulator sheet between the first and the second insulator sheets having a discharge hole;

a resistor film provided on a surface of the laminated compact;

a ground external electrode layers provided on at least one both opposed side surfaces of the laminated compact so as to be connected ~~with an~~ to both ends of the first internal electrode film;

a first signal external electrode layer provided on one end surface of the laminated compact so as to be connected ~~with to~~ an end of the second internal electrode film and one end of the resistor film; and

a second signal external electrode layer provided on the other opposed end surface of the laminated compact so as to be connected ~~with to~~ the other end of the resistor film; wherein

the first internal electrode film extends in a longitudinal direction that is perpendicular to a longitudinal direction in which the second internal electrode film extends such that portions of the first and second internal electrode films overlap; and

the discharge hole is disposed between the overlapping portions of the first and second internal electrode films.

Claim 12 (original): A surge absorber according to claim 11, wherein the resistor film is asymmetrical in plan view with respect to a line extending between both side surfaces of the laminated compact.

Claim 13 (original): A surge absorber comprising  
a laminated compact of a first insulator sheet having a first internal electrode film, a second insulator sheet having a second internal electrode film, a third insulator sheet between the first and second insulator sheets having a discharge hole, and a fourth insulator sheet having a resistor film;

~~a ground external electrode layers~~ provided on ~~at least one both opposed side surfaces~~ of the laminated compact so as to be connected ~~with and to both ends~~ of the first internal electrode film;

~~the a~~ first signal external electrode layer provided on one end surface of the laminated compact so as to be connected with an end of the second internal electrode film and one end of the resistor film; and

~~the a~~ second signal external electrode layer provided on the other opposed end surface of the laminated compact so as to be connected with the other end of the resistor film; wherein

the first internal electrode film extends in a longitudinal direction that is perpendicular to a longitudinal direction in which the second internal electrode film extends such that portions of the first and second internal electrode films overlap; and

the discharge hole is disposed between the overlapping portions of the first and second internal electrode films.

Claim 14 (original): A surge absorber according to claim 13, wherein the resistor film is asymmetrical in plan view with respect to a line extending between both side surfaces of the laminated compact.